adaptor is connectable to a second end of the one-way valve, the second end being opposite the end that is connected to the return line. In contrast, Plotsky et al. discloses a hose adaptor connected only to the return line. Plotsky et al. does not disclose a hose adaptor connected to the outlet of the one-way valve. No other cited reference pertains to, suggests use with, or references a swimming pool system. More specifically:

Hunt (4,275,907), Marrison et al. (5,211,197), and Johnston et al. (4,660,803) disclose separable fluid conduit couplings, and Shiozaki (4,905,964) discloses a connector for use with tubular conduits.

The proposed amendments are believed to place claims 29 and 32 in condition for allowance. The proposed amendment to dependent claim 30 is believed to place it in proper reliance on claim 29.

The proposed amendments are now first being presented in response to the newly cited references (specifically Plotsky et al.).

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Applicant requests an interview with the Examiner to discuss the proposed amendments and the issues briefly described in the accompanying Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Lagowski
Reg. No. 41,922

John R. Lagowski
10521 West St. Francis
Greenfield, Wisconsin 53228
414-213-3766

In the Claims

Claims 1-20 (previously cancelled).

21 (previously added, currently withdrawn). A method for winterizing a swimming pool pipe having anti-freeze therein and having a first end bordering an aperture in a swimming pool wall, said method comprising the steps of:

a) connecting a one-way valve to the first end of the swimming pool pipe, the one way valve having an inlet and an outlet;

b) attaching a first end of a hose adaptor to the one-way valve outlet;

c) attaching a second end of the hose adaptor to a hose;

d) pressurizing the anti-freeze within the swimming pool pipe; and

wherein the one-way valve i) opens under the pressure of anti-freeze pumped against the valve inlet, and ii) closes under the pressure of pool water against the valve outlet.

22 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of storing the anti-freeze.

23 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of pressurizing water at a second end of the swimming pool pipe, wherein the anti-freeze within the swimming pool pipe is responsively pressurized.

24 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 23 further comprising the steps of:

(a) depressurizing the water at the second end of the swimming pool pipe, wherein the pressure of pool water against the valve outlet closes the valve; and

(b) removing the hose adaptor from the one-way valve.

25 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of filling the swimming pool with water to a level above the aperture in the swimming pool wall.

26 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 21 further comprising the steps of:

(a) filling the swimming pool with water to a level above the aperture in the swimming pool wall;

(b) pressurizing water at a second end of the swimming pool pipe;

(c) storing the anti-freeze; and

(d) removing the hose adaptor from the one-way valve.

27 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 26 further comprising the step of adding anti-freeze to a second end of the swimming pool pipe.

28 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 24 further comprising the step of capping the one-way valve.

29 (previously added, currently amended). A swimming pool system comprising:

(a) a swimming pool and a swimming pool pipe having a first end bordering an aperture in a wall of the swimming pool;

(b) a one-way valve having:

a first end for releasible connection to the first end of the swimming pool pipe and,

a second end, opposite the first end; ~~attached to the first end of the swimming pool pipe; and~~

(c) a hose adaptor for releasible connection ~~releasibly connected~~ to the second end of the one-way valve.

30 (previously added, currently amended). The swimming pool system of claim 29 wherein the hose adaptor comprises an adaptor inlet having a radially inward extending lip, and the one-way valve second end comprises a housing having a groove for receiving the radially inward extending lip.

31 (previously presented). The swimming pool valve system of claim 29 wherein the one-way valve comprises:

(a) a gate channel; and

(b) a valve gate moveable to a first position within said gate channel for occluding fluid flow through the valve and to a second position within the gate channel for permitting fluid flow through the valve.

32 (previously added, currently amended). An apparatus for saving swimming pool pipe anti-freeze, comprising:

(a) a one-way valve having

an inlet releasibly attached to a swimming pool pipe bordering an aperture in a swimming pool wall;, and

an outlet; and

(b) a hose adaptor for releasible attachment ~~releasibly attached~~ to the one-way valve outlet, and attachable to a hose.

33 (previously presented). The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the one-way valve comprises a housing having a groove for receiving a radially inward extending lip and the hose adaptor has an inlet comprising a radially inwardly extending lip.

34 (previously added, currently withdrawn). In a swimming pool system having a pipe having anti-freeze therein, a method for saving the anti-freeze, comprising the steps of:

(a) connecting a one-way valve to the swimming pool system pipe;

(b) providing an adaptor for connection to the one-way valve; and

(c) pressurizing the swimming pool system pipe for discharging the anti-freeze.

35 (previously added, currently withdrawn). The method of claim 34 further comprising the step of storing the anti-freeze.